

Senate Bill 598

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Cagle of the 49th, Stephens of the 27th, Kemp of the 46th, Schaefer of the 50th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 42-1-12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the state sexual offender registry, so as to provide for certain requirements before a registered sex offender may enter a school, day-care center, or similar facility; to provide for penalties; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

Code Section 42-1-12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the state sexual offender registry, is amended by adding a new subsection immediately following subsection (c.1) to read as follows:

"(c.2)(1) As used in this subsection, the term 'school' shall mean any school for the education or care of children under the age of 18, including public and private primary and secondary schools, day-care centers, preschools, or similar facilities and shall include the grounds or properties belonging to such facilities.

(2) A person subject to the registration requirements of this Code section shall not be allowed to enter any school for the purpose of conducting a parent teacher meeting, visiting, working, or any other purpose except as provided in this subsection. Prior to entering any school, an offender must request permission in writing and receive from the school administrator written authorization to enter the school. The school administrator shall respond to the request in writing regarding the decision to authorize such access within three business days from the receipt of the request.

(3) An offender who is also a parent, legal guardian, or authorized caretaker of a child attending a school shall not be denied access to enter the grounds of the school for the specific purpose of dropping off or picking up such a child in a car pool line or for the purpose of picking up such a child in the event of a medical or family emergency;

1 provided, however, such access may be denied unless the offender provides prior written  
2 notice to the school administrator of his or her requirement to register as a sexual  
3 offender. Such notice shall be made at the beginning of the school year or at the time of  
4 registration or enrollment or at least five school days prior to dropping off or picking up  
5 a child at the school. If such notice is not timely received, access to the school may be  
6 denied.

7 (4) A person subject to the registration requirements of this Code section who violates  
8 this subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

9 **SECTION 2.**

10 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
11 without such approval.

12 **SECTION 3.**

13 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.